

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 01160 111008Z
ACTION EA-06

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R 110850Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8422
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1160

LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: PBOR PDEV EAID PORG CB LA TH VM PINR
SUBJECT: BURMESE CHARGE TALKS TO KAMPUCHEAN AMBASSADOR

SUMMARY: BURMESE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES U KYAW ZAW CALLED ON
KAMPUCHEAN AMBASSADOR SAMSAN AUGUST 11 AND DISCUSSED WITH
HIM KAMPUCHEAN-THAI BORDER FIGHTING, THE KAMPUCHEAN ATTITU-
TUDE TOWARD PARTICIPATION IN THE MEKONG COMMITTEE AND
TOWARDS FOREIGN AID, PROSPECTS FOR THE 1977 KAMPUCHEAN
RICE HARVEST AND SAMSAN'S PREVIOUS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER
THE GDK. END SUMMARY.

1. SAMSAN, WHO PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS "DIRECTOR OF THE
POLITICAL DIVISION OF THE KAMPUCHEAN FOREIGN MINISTRY"
AND AS A PERSONAL STAFF ASSISTANT FOR IENG SARY, SAID
THAT WHILE KAMPUCHEA WANTED PEACEFUL RELATIONS WITH
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ALL OF ITS NEIGHBORS IT WOULD NOT ALLOW THE THAI TO
OCCUPY "KAMPUCHEAN TERRITORY". SAMSAN REPORTEDLY TOLD
ZAW THAT HIS COUNTRY WAS PREPARED TO DEFEND ITS BORDERS
WITH ALL OF ITS NEIGHBORS.

2. SAMSAN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT KAMPUCHEA WAS NOT
INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE

MEKONG COMMITTEE COMMENTING THAT IN ALL THE YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE IT HAD ACCOMPLISHED VERY LITTLE. HE ADDED THAT THE MEKONG COMMITTEE WOULD MAKE NO PROGRESS UNTIL RELATIONS AMONG ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES IMPROVED. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR AN IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS INCLUDED ALL PERMUTATIONS OF MEKONG COMMITTEE MEMBERS; "ALO-THAI, THAI-KAMPUCHEAN, VIETNAMESE-KAMPUCHEAN, LAO-KAMPUCHEAN, AND SO ON."

3. SAMSAN SAID THAT KAMPUCHEA WAS NOT INTERESTED IN FOREIGN AID BECAUSE FOREIGN AID NEVER OFFERS SUBSTANTIAL HELP TO THE PEOPLE AND BECAUSE IT ALWAYS HAS TRINGS ATTACHED. HE SAID THAT AT SOME POINT KAMPUCHEA MIGHT CONSIDER UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE.

4. SAMSAN SAID THAT KAMPUCHEA EXPECTS TO HAVE A RICE SURPLUS FOR EXPORT IN 1977 "IF THE WEATHER HOLDS"J (QUOTING ZAW). (A UN OFFICIAL QUOTED CHINESE SOURCES AUGUST 9 AS SAYING THAT KAMPUCHEAN AUTHORITIES WERE PREDICTING THAT KAMPUCHEA WOULD EXPORT 250,000 TONS OF RICE IN 1977.)

5. ZAW COMMENTED THAT AT NO TIME DURING THEIR CON-
VERSATION DID HE DISCUSS TOPICS IN IDEOLOGICAL
TERMS "LIKE THE LAO AND THE VIETNAMESE."

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